

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-05 DEAE-00 NEAE-00 SCCT-01 SS-15

SSO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INRE-00 SCS-03 AID-05 CCO-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 SP-02 OC-05 OPR-02 PA-01

UOSS-00 PRS-01 SCA-01 A-01 OMB-01 /072 W

----- 016904

O 151510Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3891

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DEPT PLS PASS DEA FOR EO/CUSACK

FROM RSO TO DEPT FOR NEA/ARN: S/CCT; A/SY, SY/FO AND SY/PIB

SY/PIB PLS DIST TO INTERESTED AGENCIES

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJECT: BOMBING OF U.S. EMBASSY VEHICLE

1. AT APPROX. 0400 HOURS LOCAL A WHITE PEUGEOT BEARING
DIP TAG, 104/43 BELONGING TO DEA WAS DESTROYED BY AN EXPLOSIVE
DEVICE. THIS VEHICLE IS ONE OF DEA'S OFFICE CARS AND HAD BEEN
TAKEN HOME LAST EVENING BY S/A GEORGE MILLER. IT WAS PARKED
IN FRONT OF HIS APARTMENT BLDG. WHICH ALSO HOUSES THE JAPANESE
EMBASSY. THE VEHICLE WAS ON THE STREET AND NO OTHER CARS WERE
WITHIN FIFTY FEET.

2. ALTHOUGH THE EXPLOSION WAS HEARD AT APPROX. 0400 NO ONE
DISCOVERED THE DAMAGE UNTIL 0630 WHEN MILLER WAS TOLD BY HIS
BLDG. CONCIERGE. MILLER ADVISED RSO TRETOLA WHO RESIDES ONE
BLOCK AWAY. TRETOLA OBSERVED SCENE AND TOOK POLAROID PHOTO
WHICH WILL BE POUCHED TO DEPT. GOL AUTHORITIES (GENDARME,
SQUAD 16 AND MILITARY) ARRIVED AT APPROX 0745 AND INITIAL
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STATEMENT WAS "TWO KILOS OF DYNAMITE." GOL AUTHORITIES WILL

CONDUCT INVESTIGATION; HOWEVER, THEY ARE OVERLOADED AND STATED THAT THIS WAS JUST ONE OF MANY BOMBINGS. WE WILL PERSIST IN OBTAINING REPORT OF INVESTIGATION BUT MUST ACCEPT EXPECTED DELAY AND PROBABLE WEAK REPORT.

3. FOLLOWING ARE RSO'S OBSERVATIONS: DEVICE WAS PLACED ABOUT SIX INCHES IN FRONT OF LEFT REAR WHEEL AND ABOUT ONE FOOT UNDER VEHICLE. AT THIS POINT THERE IS A HOLE IN THE PAVEMENT APPROX. EIGHT INCHES IN DIAMETER AND ABOUT THREE INCHES DEEP. DEBRIS SCATTERED TO FRONT AND REAR OF VEHICLE FOR TOTAL OF 45 FEET AND ONLY ABOUT FIVE FEET SIDE TO SIDE. FRONT WINDSHIELD INTACT TEN FEET TO FRONT; REAR WINDOW IN MINISCULE PIECES; SIDE WINDOWS INTACT AND IN PLACE. ROOF BUCKLED AND TWO SMALL HOLES TO LEFT REAR OF ROOF. HOOD, TRUNK AND ALL FOUR DOORS POPPED AJAR. BLAST CONFINED TO REAR SEAT AREA WHICH TOTALLY GUTTED AND FLOOR NON EXISTENT. REAR AXLE BROKEN AND ON PAVEMENT. NO RPT NO SIGN OF BURN, SMOKE OR SINGE, AND GAS TANK NOT RUPTURED. PARTS OF SEAT PADDING OUTSIDE OF CAR; HOWEVER, NO METAL PARTS IN NEAR VICINITY. RSO HAS WITNESSED TWO BOMBINGS AND OBSERVED TWO OTHERS SHORTLY AFTER OCCURRENCE AND FEELS THAT TWO KILOS OF DYNAMITE IS HIGH ESTIMATE. PERSONAL OPINION IS ONE STICK OR POSSIBLE A GRENADE; HOWEVER, NO PARTS OF DEVICE READILY APPARENT. SECURITY SECTION HEAVILY INVOLVED IN OVERALL SITUATION AT POST AND CANNOT DEVOTE PERSONAL ATTENTION TO THIS INCIDENT; WILL FOLLOW UP.

4. DEA AT POST DOES NOT RULE OUT JOB ORIENTED MOTIVE FOR BOMBING, BUT FEELS IT UNLIKELY. ALSO POSSIBILITY EXISTS THAT RED ARMY FACTION MAY HAVE MISTAKEN CAR FOR ONE BELONGING TO JAPANESE EMBASSY; HOWEVER, THIS ALSO REMOTE. VEHICLE COULD HAVE BEEN JUST AN EASILY ACCESSIBLE TARGET FOR ROVING TERRORISTS WHO MAY OR MAY NOT HAVE RECOGNIZED EMBASSY TAG.
GODLEY

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: GarlanWA
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition Reason:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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05 JUL 2006

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